

COUNTRY Chile/Argentina
SUBJECT Activities of the Nationalist Party

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DATE OF INFO. Prior to 9 May 1949

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A
REPORT NO. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. On 23 April 1949, 26 leaders of the Chilean Nationalist Party met at their Santiago headquarters to discuss further the possible merging of the party with the Agrarian Labor Party.* Jorge Gallardo Rodriguez presided over the meeting.
2. During this meeting, the Nationalist Party suffered another blow when representatives of the party from San Bernardo and Vina del Mar presented the resignation of the groups from those districts. Both of these groups declared that they wanted to join the more powerful Agrarian Labor Party, and stated that they considered the Nationalist Party of Chile to be a hopeless failure.
3. Another meeting was held on 27 April at Calle Coquimbo 1242, Santiago. Fourteen councilmen or members of the National Board of Directors were present. Hedilberto Bizama Merino was also present, and contrary to his previously announced decision, presided over this meeting. He explained that he had voluntarily resumed his position as leader of the party because of the gravity of the situation.
4. At this time, Vicente Hermosilla, Nationalist leader from San Bernardo, requested that the resignation previously submitted by the Nationalists from that locality be withdrawn. He accused his fellow member from San Bernardo, Nationalist leader Oscar Jimenez, of being a political adventurer. It was decided to accept the withdrawal of the resignation of the San Bernardo group.
5. Bizama Merino criticized harshly the activities of the members from Vina del Mar, and claimed that their resignation from the Nationalist Party was a result of the activities of Luis Callis, Federico Mujica Canales, Gaston Alejandro Acuna McLean, Enrique Foto Bascunan, and others. According to Bizama Merino, these individuals are in favor of the revolutionary and anti-Chilean plans of Argentine Nationalist leader Emilio Gutierrez Herrero. It was his opinion that they were hot-headed revolutionists whose activities would probably seriously embarrass the Nationalist cause both in Chile and in other countries.
6. At a meeting on 3 May, at which Bizama Merino also presided, Victor Hidalgo Ybarra and Pedro Contreras Vega reported on their trip to Valparaiso and their interview with Jose Robledo Mendez, member of the Nationalist Council of that city. Robledo

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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Mendez allegedly told them that the Valparaiso Nationalists had no intention of joining the Agrarian Labor Party, but that Luis S. Gatica and several other Nationalist leaders of that vicinity had been convinced by Federico Mujica Canales and Luis Callis that they should support the revolutionary principles of Argentine Nationalist leader Emilio Gutierrez Herrero. As previously reported, Gutierrez Herrero wants the Chilean Nationalists to attempt a revolutionary movement in Chile at the same time as, or immediately following, a Nationalist uprising in Bolivia.**

7. Robledo Mendez also said that Luis Callis was preparing for a trip to the southern part of Chile to secure the aid of other Nationalist groups in Gutierrez Herrero's revolutionary plan.
8. Bizana Merino and other Nationalists opposed to this idea maintain that the expenses of Callis' trip will be paid by Nestor Lima Quintana, Argentine Cultural Attache in Santiago.***

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25X1A: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. It is regarded as somewhat unlikely that Lima Quintana would pay for Callis' trip, since it is known that Gutierrez Herrero is a political opponent of President Peron. It seems improbable that Lima Quintana is not aware that Federico Mujica Canales and Luis Callis are closely associated with Gutierrez Herrero. However, Mujica Canales has collaborated closely with Lima Quintana in gathering material for the latter's history and activities of the Chilean Communist Party.

There is also the possibility that the present Argentine government considers that the Nationalist and anti-Peron activities of Gutierrez Herrero are in themselves of little importance, but considers any outbreak of violence in Chile as favoring Argentine policy in regard to that country.

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